

VEHICLE ACTIVE NETWORK WITH RESERVED PORTIONS**Abstract of the Disclosure**

A vehicle active network (12) communicatively couples devices (14-20)
5 within a vehicle (10) and includes a reserved portion (64). Device operation is
independent of the interface (22-28) of the device (14-20) with the active network
(12). Additionally, the architecture of the active network (12) provides one or more
levels of communication redundancy. The architecture provides for the total
integration of vehicle systems and functions, and permits plug-and-play device
10 integration and upgradeability.

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